

<b><u>DEPARTMENT:</u></b>	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>
<b><u>TITLE OF COURSE:</u></b>	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>
<b><u>LEVEL:</u></b>	<b>ADVANCED HIGHER</b>
<b><u>RECOMMENDED ENTRY LEVELS:</u></b>	<b>A pass in Higher Geography preferably at A or B</b>

## **COURSE CONTENT**

The Advanced Higher in Geography emphasises the development of independent study, co-operative learning, objective thinking and the ability to communicate clearly and confidently.

There are **Two Units** to the Advanced Higher Geography course. All involve significant teacher input but with several quite major individual tasks for pupils to complete (with much teacher support).

### **UNIT 1: GEOGRAPHICAL SKILLS**

These were encountered throughout National 5 and Higher Grade courses in Geography. At Advanced Higher level more complex methods and techniques are experienced, not only in the classroom but also through practical field techniques demonstrated out-in-the-field. These include mapping skills, graphical techniques and a range of statistical techniques for gathering, analysing and interpreting geographical data. Learners will also develop a range of independent geographical research skills.

### **UNIT 2: GEOGRAPHICAL ISSUES**

The general aim of this Unit is to develop critical thinking and the ability to evaluate viewpoints using evidence from a wide range of sources on complex, current geographical issues.

Learners who complete this Unit will critically evaluate viewpoints using evidence from a wide range of sources relating to a complex, current geographical issue. At Unit level, candidates will need support and guidance in summarising, evaluating and reaching a conclusion. This may include a degree of background reading to support their work and should be supported by appropriate learning and teaching experiences.

### **METHODOLOGY:**

During class time, teacher led lessons will put across the concepts, techniques etc. with the pupils. Worked examples will be worked through with the teacher. As a follow up, there will be exercises set to practice the new techniques (with specifically identified textbooks to help). However, as well as whole class teaching and support, there will be **much** need for individual help during the planning, execution and completion of the various individual aspects of the Advanced Higher course i.e. the **Geography Study** and the **Geographical Issue**.

Fieldwork is an essential point of Advanced Higher Geography, therefore there will be numerous excursions out into the local area. In recent sessions there has been a 3-day residential field trip to Kindrogan in Perthshire where all the physical Geography fieldwork techniques have been covered. This is a joint venture with other Aberdeenshire schools in September, and this is already at the planning stages for next session.

### **ASSESSMENT:**

There will be both **internal** and **external** assessment of the course in Advanced Higher Geography:-

**INTERNAL:** Pupils will provide evidence of application of various Geographical Skills. This will be in the form of a folio of which will be added to over the session.

**EXTERNAL:** There will be a **Question Paper (50 marks)**, examining the work done in Unit 1 (Geographical Skills) and a **Coursework project – folio** consisting of the **Geographical Study (60 marks)** and the **Geographical Issues report (40 marks)** which will be completed in school and sent to SQA early May.